

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9616

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AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

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TAGS: ECON, EAID, PGOV, TZ

SUBJECT: TAKING STOCK OF TANZANIA'S MARCH TOWARD SOCIALISM

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 2228

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1. DURING CURRENT TANU PARTY CONFERENCE PRES NYERDRE PRESENTED GOVT. REPORT ASSESSING IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY LAST TANU CONFERENCE TWO YEARS AGO. REPORT DESCRIBES PROGRESS IN VILLAGIZATION, AGRICULTURE AND RELATED INDUSTRY, REGIONAL DECENTRALIZATION, AND BASIC SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE. IT ALSO REFERS TO TROUBLED STATE OF ECONOMY, FOCUSES ON NEED FOR GREATER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND SUGGESTS SOME MODIFICATIONS. (COPY POUCHED AF/E.)

2. TANGOV STILL EXPECTS HAVE ALL RURAL TANZANIANS IN VILLAGES BY END OF 1976 (OVER NINE MILLION OR 65 PERCENT OF RURAL POPULATION NOW LIVING IN SOME SEVEN THOUSAND VILLAGES). BUT SIGNIFICANTLY, REPORT STATES GOVT WILL NOT FORCE VILLAGERS TO FARM CO-OPERATIVELY. THIS NEXT PHASE OF RURAL TRANSFORMATION SHOULD EVOLVE NATURALLY, PRESUMWBLY WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASSISTANCE OF SOON TO BE ESTABLISHZD VILLAGE ASSEMBLIES AND

COUNCILS. REPORT URGES CORRECTION OF SOME OF PAST YEAR'S MISTAKES, SUCH AS CREATION OF UNWIELDLY LARGE VILLAGES AND SLIGHTING CASH CROP PRODUCTION IN EFFORT TO GROW MORE FOOD. (DAR A-30 OF 3/75 DESCRIBED DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS ON COTTON CROP DUE POLITICAL EXCESSES OF FOOD CAMPAIGN.)

3. BY ADMONISHING AGAINST FORCING PACE OF RURAL SOCIALISM AND BY HIGHLIGHTING NEW INCENTIVES TO FOOD AND CASH CROP PRODUCERS IN FORM OF RECENT HIGHER PRICES AND SUBSIDIZED FERTILIZER, REPORT SEEMS CONFIRM RECENT SPECULATION THAT PARTY AND GOVT INTEND RETREAT FROM OR DELAY CONVERSION OF SIMPLE VILLAGES INTO UJAMAA COMMUNALLY FARMED ONES. (WE WOULD NOTE HOWEVER THAT SOME GOVT OFFICIALS ARE ARGUING THAT IF 1976 CASH CROP PRODUCTION DOES NOT EXPAND SUFFICIENTLY, GOVT SHOULD ON NATION-WIDE BASIS FORCE GREATER OUTPUT BY ASSIGNING ACREAGE AND PENALIZING THOSE WHO DON'T MEET QUOTAS.)

4. COMMENT: GOVT ASSESSMENT CONTAINS NO NEW DEPARTURES AND CAN BE VIEWED AS COMPLEMENT TO BUDGET SPEECH (REFTEL). REPORT REAFFIRMS TANZANIA'S DETERMINATION TO MOVE "TOWARDS CREATION OF SOCIALIST SOCIETY"; WHETHER NYERERE'S INJUNCTION AGAINST FORCIBLE COMMUNAL FARMING WILL BE HEEDDED REMAINS TO BE SEEN. RECORD SO FAR RAISES QUESTION WHETHER WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS CAN CONTROL THEIR ZEAL, POLITICAL AMBITION AND FRUSTRATION IN FACE OF SLOW RESULTS FROM FREINDLY PERSUASION METHOD. REPORT UNDERSTATES SEVERE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS STILL PLAGUING COUNTRY, EG. 30 PERCENT INFLATION, STAGNANT OUTPUT OF AGRICULTURE AND STATE CORPORATIONS, AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS WHICH IMPEDING ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT AND WHICH CONTINUE INCREASE TANZANIA'S ALREADY HEAVY RELIANCE ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.

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